

# Masoretic Text



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(He/Him)

# The Second Temple Period and Matthew

- The Masoretic Text as we know it did not exist in the Second Temple Period.
- Jews in the first century would be familiar with some combination of an oral or written Tanakh.
- Tanakh, or Proto-MT, did exist in Second Temple Period and references can be found in the Dead Sea Scrolls.
- Matthew would have known some books in the Tanakh, but would not have known the format or structure of the Masoretic Text.

# Relationship to Other Texts

- Proto-Masoretic Text exists in sources found with the Dead Sea Scrolls in Qumran.
- Tanakh is the name of the version of the Masoretic Text that existed in the Second Temple Period
- The Septuagint text (LXX) is a translation of the MT into Greek for Greek speaking Jews
- Aleppo Codex (10th century C.E.)
- Leningrad Codex (1009)

# Questions

- First, why is this text important from what we know about it?
- How do the Masoretic text and the Septuagint text differ and how are they similar?
- How do these texts relate to the Proto-MT of the Second Temple period?
- How is this text important to Judaism?
- Is it relevant to Christianity as well?

# Works Cited

- Leviant, Curt. “Jewish Holy Scriptures.” *The Leningrad Codex*, Jewish Virtual Library, [www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-leningrad-codex](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-leningrad-codex).
- Drummond, Jennifer. “The Aleppo Codex.” *Biblical Archaeology Society*, 4 Apr. 2019, [www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/biblical-topics/hebrew-bible/the-aleppo-codex/](http://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/biblical-topics/hebrew-bible/the-aleppo-codex/).